



**DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND
POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I (we) believe we are the original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

IMPROVED OIL-BASED DRILLING FLUID
the specification of which

(Check one) ☒ is attached hereto.

☒ was filed on January 26, 2001 as
Application Serial No. 09/770,848
and was amended on January 26, 2001
(if applicable)

I (we) hereby state that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I (we) acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

☒ I (we) hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I (we) acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

<u>08/862,201</u>	<u>May 23 1997</u>	<u>Patented, USP 6,218,342</u>
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)
		(Patented, Pending, Abandoned)

☒ I (we) hereby claim domestic priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119(e) of any provisional application(s) for patent listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I (we) acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations,

§1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior provisional application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Provisional Application(s):

60/ 023,043	August 2, 1996	Pending
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status)

I (we) hereby appoint the following as our representative(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith: **STEPHEN H. CAGLE**, Attorney (Reg. No. 26,445), **PATRICIA A. KAMMERER**, Attorney (Reg. No. 29,775), **CRAIG M. LUNDELL**, Attorney (Reg. No. 30,284), **JANELLE D. WAACK**, Attorney (Reg. No. 36,300), **CARTER J. WHITE**, Agent (Reg. No. 41,374), and **ROBERT P. AUERBACH**, Agent (Reg. No. 46,525) each an attorney or agent with the law firm of HOWREY, SIMON, ARNOLD, & WHITE, LLP as its attorney or agent so long as they remain with such law firm.

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I (we) hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under §1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full name of first inventor Arvind D. Patel

First Inventor's signature Arvind D. Patel 6/21/01
Date

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Citizenship USA

Mailing Address Same as above